

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace paragraph [0053] with the following amended paragraph:

[0053] The axle saddle 88 is a generally arcuate, saddle-like structure preferably extending laterally an equal distance on either side of the beam longitudinal axis 34. However, the saddle 88 can extend beyond the axis 34 an unequal distance to accommodate the actual stresses to which the saddle 88 will be subjected. The axle saddle 88 has an axle saddle contact surface 90 with a curvature somewhat greater than the curvature of the axle surface 23. Preferably, the contact surface 90 is cast, however, certain applications may require machining. The design process preferably utilizes the finite element analysis method in order to configure the length, width, and thickness of the axle saddle 88 to accommodate the stresses to which the axle saddle 88 will be subjected. In the embodiment shown in Figs. 3-7, the width of the axle saddle 88 is approximately equal to the width of the upper beam flange 72. The axle saddle 88 preferably includes a cavity 162 recessed into the contact surface 90. In the illustrated example, the cavity 162 (Figs. 12 and 13) is completely encapsulated and is provided a substantially circular shape, however, other geometrical configurations may be utilized. In operation, stress is concentrated on the axle 22 at locations proximate the connections between the trailing arms 112 and the axle 22 by preventing the axle 22 from bending as compared to the locations along the length of the axle 22 not connecting with the trailing arms 112. The cavity 162 reduces the localized stress proximate the connection points between the trailing arms 112 and the axle 22.

Please replace paragraph [0059] with the following amended paragraph:

[0059] As best illustrated in Fig. 16, the proximate end 56 of each trailing arm 112 is provided with a plurality of bushing removal/insertion tool engagement surface 190 each extending radially outward from the bushing sleeve 60 in a cantilevered manner. Each engagement surface 190 includes an aperture 192 extending therethrough for

receiving a portion of the tool therein. The engagement surfaces 190 cooperate to increase the area available for engagement of the tool, as compared to a trailing arm that provides only an end surface of the bushing sleeve 60.